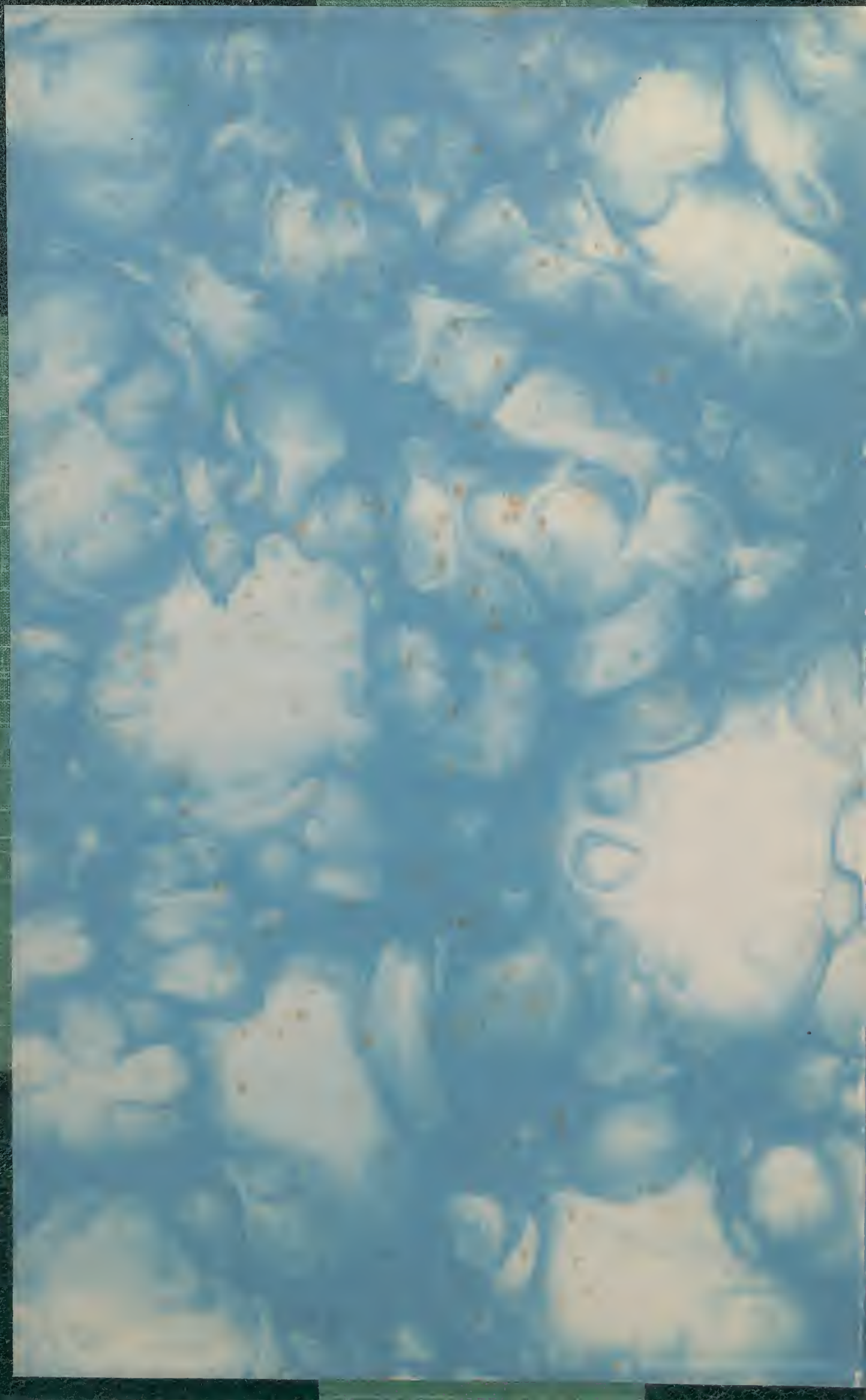


Rhodesia.

July 11th. 1914. to Oct. 7th 1914.

Kudu. (T. capensis typicus.)

64 ins. curve — 41 straight.
63 " " " — 48½ ".
59 " " " — 50 ".
56 " " " — 44 ". à 30.
55 " " " — 44 ".

Roan (H. equinus typicus.)

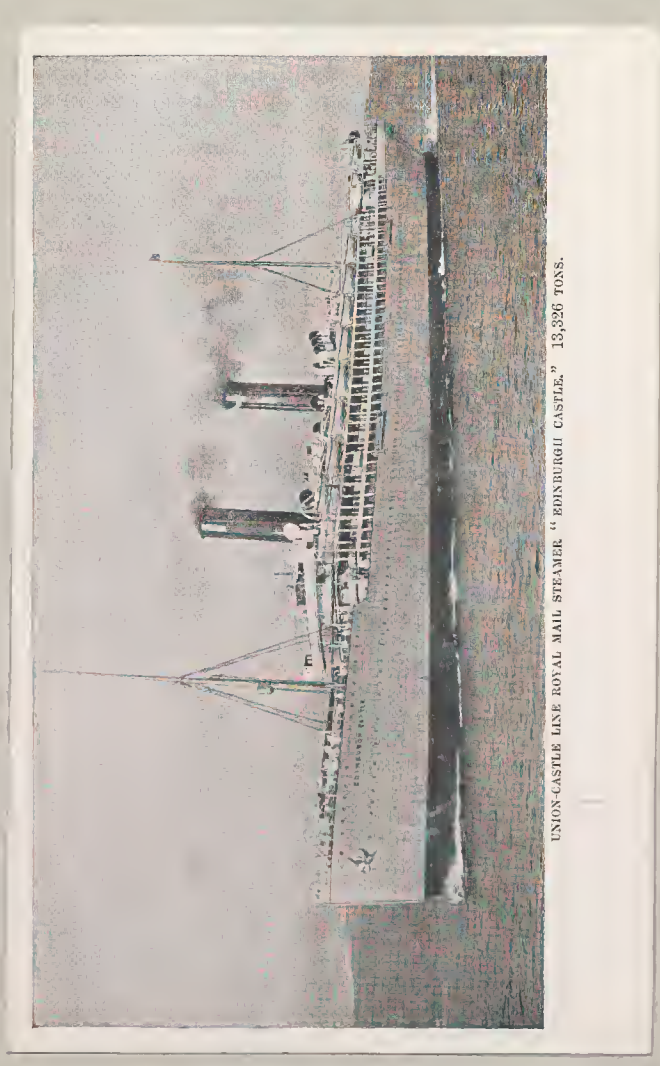
39 ins. " ".
32 " " ".
30 " " ".
29¾ " " ".

Sable (Hippotragus niger.)

54 ins. " ".
50 " " ".
44 " " ".

Lechwe (Tolus lechwe.)

33. ins. " ".
30 " " ".
27½. " " ".



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1914.

July 11th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Channel.

Left Waterloo at 11, 35 a.m. with W.H. Lindsey & reached Southampton about 1, 30 — very hot. Got luggage on board the boat. Not did not start till 5 p.m.
She is a fine boat of 13, 300 tons & seems very comfortable & very thing well done. Not many passengers as it is the slack season.
Have a good cabin to myself for which I had to pay extra — on upper deck
Very smooth & warm — passed the Needles about 7 p.m
No one on board I know personally.

July 12th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Bay of Biscay.

256.

Fog in the night & consequent hooting.
Passed Ushant at 7 a.m. A lovely day & not so hot — a slight roll in the afternoon & much colder at night. Food & very thing very well done.

July 13th. S.S. Edinburgh Castle Atlantic.

369.

Passed Cape Finisterre about 8 a.m.
Weather & rather cooler & ship pitching a little.
Slight drizzle during the evening.
"Marconi" newspaper came out at dinner time.

Brisk. (Brisk scoparia.)

7½ ins.
6 "
5-¼ "

Brisket. (Cephalopterus giunna.)

6½ ins.
5-½ "
5- "

Brindled Gnu. (T. taurinus typicus.)

32 ins.
30 "
25- "

Jerusbuck. (Oryx gazella.)

47 ins.
44 "
41 "

Reedbuck. (Cervicapra arundinum)

18 ins.
15- ".
14½ ".

July 14th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

388.

A dull morning turning very hot. A long gentle "pitch" at first but afterwards quite calm. A whale seen.
Made the acquaintance of Scott who is going to shoot in Rhodesia with Cunningham — he starts from Kalomo.

July 15th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Madeira.

287.

Anchored off Madeira at 6 a.m. — Funchal is the port.
It is a fine mountainous island — the tops of the hills in the clouds — dotted all over with various coloured houses.
Very hot so did not go ashore. Off at 11 a.m. & soon got into a strong following wind which raised quite a sea — the ship rolled & pitched a lot but very easily & I should say she is a good sea boat. Talked to Winchester about our trip — he says he will tell us where to get gemsbok. People are beginning to bother about sports, dances & other nuisances.
Some cabins got flooded through the port holes tonight.
"Marconi paper" again.
We are now beginning to get the "North East Trade" winds.

July 16th. S.S. Edinburgh Castle. Atlantic.

380.

Blowing very fresh from the N.E. & the ship rolling a lot.
Passed Teneriffe at 2 a.m. but did not get up to see it.

Puku. (Felis Vardoni.)

20 3/4 ins.
18. "
17 1/2 "

Waterbuck (Felis defassa crawshayi.)

29 ins.
27. "
25. "

Impala. (Æ. melampus petersi.)

22 1/2 ins.
20. "
19. "

July 17th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle" Atlantic.

384.

A dull morning with a smoother sea & a damp steamy heat — wind still from N.E.

July 18th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

396.

Another dull morning & very hot & muggy. Met Todd who is going to shoot in N.E. Rhodesia. Very heavy rain in the afternoon for three hours.

July 19th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle" Atlantic.

377.

A ~~sunny~~ morning & much cooler. Service at 10,30 conducted by the Captain & Chief Officer. Passed the "Armadale Castle" about 2.p.m. going N.

July 20th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

373.

A lovely morning & the most steamy heat has gone as we are now meeting the "South West Trade" winds.

July 21st. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

360.

Another lovely morning. Crossed the Equator during the night.

Left England . . . . . on July 11th.
Arrived at Cape Town . . . . . " 28th.
Left " " . . . . . " 28th.
Arrived at Livingstone . . . . " 31st.
Left " . . . . . Aug 4th.
Arrived at Mayaluka . . . . " 6th.
Left " . . . . . " 6th.
Arrived at Thoma . . . . . " 27th.
Left " . . . . . " 28th.
Arrived at Livingstone . . . . " 28th.
Left " . . . . . Sept 1st.
Arrived at Cape Town . . . . " 5th.
Left " " 21st.
Arr [redacted] at Plymouth Oct 6th.

July 22nd S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

366.

dull morning & very much cooler. Sports.

July 23rd S.S. "Edinburgh Castle" Atlantic.

366.

Blowing quite hard. Found we had to take permits for our rifles, so got Brodie to "Marconi" to take down for them — he is in the Chartered Co & going out to see how things are going. Sports.

July 24th S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

364.

Fine & quite cool. Passed the "Durham Castle" homeward bound — about 2 p.m. Marconi newspaper at breakfast.

July 25th S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

359.

dull morning with a little rain. After lunch went over most of the ship with Goldstone — the 4th time — very interesting. The ship pitched a lot in the evening — a really long Atlantic swell.

July 26th S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

358.

Ship pitched very much all night. Service at 10,30. Ship steadier in afternoon.

Total miles from Southampton to Jaffa Town = 5986.

" " " Jaffa Road to Levingstone = 1680.

" " " Levingstone to Mayallaka = 250

7916 miles.

Total length of trip to Mayallaka & back to England = 15820 miles.

July 27th. S.S. "Edinburgh Castle". Atlantic.

360.

Blowing hard from N.W. & the boat pitching & rolling a lot. Busy packing. Weather turned bad in the afternoon — misty & rainy & cold. Saw some albatross.

July 28th. In train.

Blowing very hard so could not get into the docks till nearly 8 a.m. — raining hard & Table Mountain & very thing else hid in mist. A Railway clerk got our baggage & rifles through the customs but the cartridges were not put out till after the mails & we only just got them as the train started. An officious official then said they must go in the van & look them out of the carriage & the train started without them!!! However they were put on a steam trolly & just caught the train as it left Cape Town station. Lindsay & I & Scott in one carriage — sleeper. Passed through a flat bushy country with hills on each side which became mountains covered with snow near the Hex River & it turned very cold indeed. Very steep gradient in places — 1 in 40.

July 29th. In train.

Much warmer. Passed through flat bushy plains with occasional kopjes. Reached Kimberley about 3, but only stayed a few minutes. Very flat country & it looked difficult to defend as it was.

July 30th.

On train

West through thick bushy country all day reaching Bulawayo about 8. Left at 11. Very hot.

July 31st.

Livingstone.

Passed through the same thick bushy country with high hills in places. Reached Victoria Falls about 4 — a magnificent gorge — & Livingstone about 6. All the officials very obliging but we were a long time finding our cartridges. Drove to the North Western hotel which seems quite comfortable. Russell met us. Livingstone seems nothing but sand with some nice trees & good houses. Wallace is away.

Aug 1st.

North Western Hotel Livingstone.

Busy buying things — saw Clarke who took us to the Magistrates office for licences — £2 5s. each. Moss very kindly said we could have two rooms.
Some quite good shops but the streets nothing but sand. Went to the Club — a delightfully cool place with some good heads.
Our stores left here for Mayabuka about two days ago — Stott's stores with Pennington's down thick at Beira.

Her French was a member of the Belgian Government a M.P. for Antwerp. Much as he hates the Germans, he thinks they will win if there is a War v. England, France & Russia.

Aug 2nd.

Falls Hotel. Victoria Falls.

Left at 9.30 by trolly to the river where we got in a motor boat & went about half an hour down the Zambesi — a fine wide river with some islands where the stream shallows & the current is very fast. Walked to the hotel which is quite good & then went with Russell to see the Falls. They extend about 1¼ miles & the fall into a deep narrow chasm is 400 ft. The spray rises a tremendous height & drenches one through 400 ft above the water. A Belgian by name Franck here — a very knowledgeable man.

Aug 3rd.

N.W. Hotel. Livingstone.

Left at 11 & went by canoe back to Livingstone. Fowler took charge of my daily letter & promised to keep it till I got back. Went to see a cricket match after tea & then called on the Administrator — Wallace. Had a long talk to him about the European war & he said he thought England had declared war against Germany. This puts us in a very awkward position as although we should probably do no good if we returned home yet it does not seem right to be away if England is fighting. It is said that Germany has invaded France, but nothing is known for certain. Wallace advised us to go on till any how something definite was known about the war.

Sun rises at 6.30 in this country now.
" sets " 6 " " " "

Aug 4th.

On train.

Went to see Good who gave me leave to shoot. Three Kudu. Train left at 11 & we went through the usual bushy mountainy country which by degrees got more open, but looked very barren & dried up. Jumunjhani arrived.

Aug 5th.

On camp. Mayabaka.

Reached Mayabaka at 4.a.m. — Very cold. Micklem was there & after getting our luggage out of the train, we started off in the dark — Micklem & Lindsay driving & I riding a grey. A rough hilly road at first & not very nice in the dark, but it got better as it got lighter & we reached Mayabaka — 10 miles from the station — about 7. Very busy all day rearranging chop boxes. Mr & Mrs Micklem most kind & they lent us blankets, etc, etc — Very cold here at night — & entertained us most hospitably. No news about the War.

Aug 6th.

On camp. Rosoe's house.

Very busy packing the ox-waggon, etc, so did not get off till nearly 12. Rode with Goldenheim — our white hunter — & some Kaffirs that saw no shoot. Killed a Kudu & only an Oribi. Got to camp about 3 & saw Rosoe. Country much more open but grass long. Heard that war had been declared with Germany from Rosoe who dined with us. The horses bolted back to Micklems & had to be sent for.

The rains seem to have more or less failed in Rhodesia for the last three years & consequently water is very scarce very often at this time of the year.

The ground is covered with very big dead leaves which make a tremendous rattle when one steps on them as if they were made of wood. In places too it is very stony.
Altogether stalking is most difficult.

× Geldenhuis — our "white hunter" — was a real fraud in every way.
He was a "rebel" to start with & ought to have been shot after the S. A. war.
He boasted of the way he had tricked our people.
He drank & ate excess whenever he could get any drink — he stole a lot of ours — & was much more of a hindrance than a help.
His only idea of "stalking" was to "gallop" after any animal he saw.
He was a really bad type of Boer — swaggering, conceited & insolent till one day I lost my temper & told him exactly what I thought of him & threatened to give him a real good "hiding".
He was much bigger than I was but was none the more plucky.

Aplin says it is almost certain war has been declared against Germany though he has had no official news.

Aug 7th.

In camp. Kwamajas

Were to have been called at 4. But something went wrong with Geldenhuis & we were not woken till 6 & then settled not to trek till 10. Marched towards the railway, which we reached at 12, through a beastly dried up hot bushy sandy country. Passed a got with a similar country but full of kraals & cattle & camped near a waterhole at 3,30. Only had two drinks & an orib & it looks a hopeless country for game as there is no grass at all.

Aug 8th.

In camp. Major Gordon's farm.

Much talk about getting off at 3. a.m. so we slept on our beds in the open — rather chilly. However we did not get off till 6 & went past a big kraal & through dry bushy country till 10, 30 when we reached the Mongwe river — only to find one nearly dried up waterhole composed chiefly of mud. Unsaddled & had lunch. I shot a hartebeeste & I missed a steinbuck. We were supposed to inspan at 4, but as usual were an hour late & then J. very stupidly went off the road to shoot. After an unsuccessful attempt to "gallop" an eland in the bush, we went back to the road & after going on till 7 o'clock, found we had 10 miles more to go. Result after a weary ride & walk in the dark, we did not reach Major Gordon's farm till 10 & found they were in bed. Major Gordon away but the manager — [redacted] — treated us very hospitably also Cochrane who was staying here. Waggons in at 12.

Anthrax is very bad in parts of this country & will interfere very much with our shooting as we cannot take our oxen into the infected districts.

A 899 14-11-12.

The British South Africa Company,

Administration of Northern Rhodesia.

Memorandum.

August 4th 1914

From the **Secretary's Office,** LIVINGSTONE.

To District Officials

This is certify that Mr N.C. Cockburn is permitted to shoot 3 Koodo under his £25 licence

Richard Goode

Secretary

Aug 9th. Major Gordon's farm.

Up late & breached, etc, etc. After lunch Ogilvie took us in the motor along quite a good road on to the flats & showed us where we should go tomorrow. Coming back we saw a herd of eland close to the house & motored up & back for our guns. Four of us had a go in a very bad light & they said I hit the bull in the hind leg — any how we soon got him.

Aug 10th. In camp. Rapsu flats.

Off about 7, 30 & marched N. along the road. We motored over yesterday for about 8 miles & then turned N.W. & about 1. got to the edge of a swamp & camped — both tents up for the first time. Water very bad out of shallow pools in the swamp. Going bad over fallen-down long grass.
Numerous herds of lechwe all away to the N. — the "flat" extends as far as one can see to the N. & N.W. without a tree on it.
G. & I went W. after tea to look for water — got close to a herd of wildebeeste at a pool by following some cattle, but could not see a bull. Coming back saw a solitary wildebeeste bull, but he would not let us get near him. Eventually I am ashamed to say I had a go at over 800 yds — missed first time but by an awful fluke killed him the second

I got mine (2) too down a night to have gone more N.
All the big backs were near the Kaiser!

First time we have heard officially that war has been
declared against Germany.

Aug 11th.

In camp. Hafue flats.

Very cold & a thick mist so not off till 7.30 dec W. Saw some enormous herds of lechwe, but they were very wild & could not get near them as there was no cover at all to hide a mouse. Eventually galloped to the place they seemed making for, & dismounting, had a go as they ran past, but there was not a buck amongst them. Tried again with another herd but missed a good buck running past at about 150 yds. Did this several times without any success, but eventually hit a moderate buck & fired again at him & by bad luck killed two does with one shot. Head = 27 ins. Horse very steady when left alone. A. got a head = 29 ins. Both I & he shot very badly, but never got within 200 yds I think a running animal & at standing ones the shots were at least 300 yds. The good bucks are very difficult to distinguish as such big bots & are generally screened by other animals as well. The water here is like thick mud & almost undrinkable when boiled & filtered — it is got from shallow pools in the swamps adjacent. Letter tonight from Aplin with news of 43 German ships sunk — 25,000 Germans killed by Belgians & Alsace & Lorraine retaken by the French with great slaughter. This relieves our minds immensely & we feel we can stay on in this country where we might be wanted — Boo troops are at Livingstone or said to be.

Wonderful mirage here & it is most difficult to make out animals which generally seem standing in a lake & take all sorts & weird & wavy shapes above the ground like birds.

Aug 12th.

In camp. Hafuer flats.

Packed up camp & do not off till nearly 9 & went W. till the ground became too swampy for the waggon & then outspanned. Went after some lechwe & shot disgracefully but the glare was awful & I was always shooting in the sun. Eventually got a buck whose head = 28½ ins. They are not very wild & will let you get within about 250 yds but the buck you want is nearly always hidden by others & generally moving slowly on. Found G. had already had 3 bottles of whiskey which he denied — except one bottle — so this going to be locked up.

This place is awfully damp & I am beginning to feel lumbago — No mosquitoes as it is very cold at night. L. had a long & unsuccessful chase after a Wildebeeste.

Aug 13th.

In camp. Hafuer flats.

Very cold do not off till 8 & went due N. to try & find the river. The ground got wetter & wetter as we went & after a time we got into a swamp in which there were occasionally some very nasty channels to cross — the long grass & reeds in them twisted round the horses legs & ~~the~~ as the water was up to ~~the~~ their girths, we had a bit of trouble to get along. The water & mud got deeper & deeper & after struggling through it & trying different places for some time we gave it & spoken up. All the lechwe buck were about here — thousands of them — & I got a very fine one of 31½ ins. I also got two as did not like to shoot another. Hundreds of geese & duck about.

Rumours re destruction of German fleet not confirmed & it looks as if matters were not going so well as we thought. Am thinking of going home — D. can go on with Goldenhuys if he wants to.

xx Hargreaves is dead.

Aug 14th.

In camp.

Off about 8 & dist the camp to the two trees S.W. to outspan whilst we went on a wild idea of d'o to see if we could get to the river by another way more W. Naturally we could'nt any more than the way we went yesterday. We had several unsuccessful shots at wildebeeste & the result was that we did not get to the two trees till 1 & having lunched there, did not get off till nearly 3. Consequently we had to camp without finding water & had very little to drink & practically none to wash in — a miserable evening. Q. shot a porcupine which was thought to be a lion in the dusk.

Aug 15th.

In camp. Major Gordon's farm.

Off at the usual time & trekked across the flat to the hot water spring — Waggon in at 11. Very hot & thanks goodness got a bath in clean water instead of the mud we have tried to wash in for the last week!
Aplyn came in the evening & we got him to send a cable to England asking if D. & I can be any use in the Transvaal.

Aug 16th

In camp.

Got off till 8.15 & trekked about 7 miles along a waggon road & then turned on to a native path through the usual burnt veld bush. Got to a Kraal about 1, but the water was frightful mud & our horses would hardly touch it. Outspanned for two hours & then marched on to another kraal which

All this part of Rhodesia seems thickly populated with natives — no sooner are you out of one Kraal than you see another.
One never gets away from natives & cattle & to my mind this absolutely spoils a shooting trip in every way.

Aug 16th. (continued)

We reached about 5.30. Quite a good lake — very narrow — good water not fouled by cattle in an open plain. A Whiteman — Becker — turned up & talked for hours.

Aug 17th.

In camp. Boroman's Road.

Off at sunrise & J. & I rode into the bush about N.W. Using in the quantity I dried leaves & dead grass one makes an awful noise going along & it appears almost impossible to get near anything — occasionally there are a lot. I loose stones too. I saw a herd of 5 female kudu & one small buck, a sable bull & some zebra. But could not get near any of them. G. very excited & inclined to run after every thing he saw. The Bush is not very thick in most places. Back about 11. Went out after tea to where a native said he had seen 8 kudu bulls this morning but saw nothing. Began to think I ought to go home without doubt.

Aug 18th.

In camp. Boroman's Road.

Off at sunrise & went N.W. on foot & made a big circle back to camp but only saw a sable bull in the distance & some zebra — very few tracks. G. saw a good kudu bull but did not get a shot — Shere I was yesterday due N. from camp. G. seems to think that he ought to have done if he had been close to him. Got an orite after tea 3. from camp. Have settled to go home on account of the war — probably I shant be wanted, but I might. I be. G. does not seem to realise that we are at war at all & does no reason for going home

Aug 19th

In camp. Boroman's Kraal.

Off at 6, 15 — very cold — a wind a long way due N. from camp over the usual dried up bushy country. Saw fresh tracks of Kudu, sable & eland but never got near them. Back at 10 very footsore as the horses were left in camp for a rest — We can get no meat here for them. Built a stone S. wind & ones tent full of dust & dirt. Went out after tea to get a partridge, but they were too wild & would not fly. A. caught some horrible looking fish in the lagoon.
Saw this morning a place where a whirlwind had uprooted some big trees — a complete circle of them. Settled to get to Shoma on 27th.

Aug 20th.

In camp.

Off at 7, 30 & trekked along a native path through the usual dried up bush — saw only a few oribi — all of which we missed which was annoying as we have no fresh meat.
Jumped at 12, 30 near a filthy water hole — we have to carry water today hoping to reach the Makonka river tomorrow — this said not to be running this year for the first time in the memory of the "oldest inhabitant".
The rains seem to have failed in this country the last two years — certainly water seems extraordinarily scarce & what we find is generally nothing but mud.
Went out after tea & saw a great number of partridge but they were very wild & I only got 2 shots "on the fly". A. after a great battle got 2 reedbuck.
Half a basin of filthy water has to suffice for all our washing today & tomorrow morning.

This part of Rhodesia, though all bush, seems densely populated & there are kraals every mile or so.

Aug 21st.

In camp. Makonka river.

Off at 7.30 & had a shot-march through the usual sort of country to the Makonka river which was reported to be flooding but which we found dry except for a few holes — it must be a big river too. With our usual bad luck, we find that all the native cattle have come down to the river so all the water has gone out inland, so it looks bad for game. The natives fired the grass on the far side of the river & about 5 p.m. it came across up wind nearly to camp. so we had to burn a ring round our tents. Went out N. but saw nothing.

Aug 22nd.

In camp. Makonka river.

Off at dawn with G. across the river N.W. over a very bare bushy country with no grass. For a long time saw nothing except an impala & a hartebeest which were too wild to get near. Coming back saw some eland & tried to "gallop" the former, but he got into some thick bush & through I once got a shot at him running in some high grass, he vanished. Later saw some hartebeest & after a "dust up" with G. who annoyed me & made me lose my temper, I hit one & after putting three more bullets into him at long range, I got him. Head = 19½ ins. He had a round bullet just under the skin of his quarter — the wound quite healed up. Got back tell 1.

Aug 23rd.

In camp. Makonka river.

Made a short march of about 4 miles down — S — the Makonka river. The country gets rather more undulating — & less dead flat — as we go on. Sent a runner with letters to Thoma, the distance to which has now grown from 20 to 40 miles !!! Crowds of natives came to sell meabies, etc, to our men for meat — & made an awful noise. Had a long walk E. in the afternoon, but saw only a few hartebeeste. C. saw some kudu cows on the other side of the river — he does'nt seem at all keen to go home.

Aug 24th.

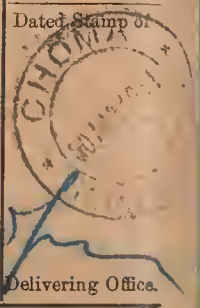
In camp. Malende.

C. off at 6 to look for kudu where he saw the cows last night, but was not successful. Started off at 7, 30 & had a long dreary march to Malende which the waggon did not reach till 1, as it got massed up with some trees. Very hot — camped close to the Makonka river again — quite a big pool of water. Only saw one duiker all day.
The natives say the small buckes just some of the sticky black stuff from their glands on to the grass — presently eaten down a little — round their droppings. Which illustrates the place in the book & shows them where it is: They showed C. some grass with the stuff on it round some droppings yesterday.
Went out after tea to get a partridge. But saw very few & they were very wild.
C. has agreed to go home with me but I am sure it is very unnecessary — very strange & hard to understand to me.

THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY'S TELEGRAPHS.

No. of Message

Dated Stamp of



If the accuracy of this Telegram (being an Inland Telegram) is doubted, it will be repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission; and, if found to be incorrect, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Cablegrams. When the cost of a reply to a Telegram has been prepaid, and the number of words in the reply is in excess of the number so paid for, the Sender of the reply must pay for such excess.

N.B.—This Form should accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

SOUTH AFRICAN MEAN TIME is observed by THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY'S OFFICES.

Handed in at Lincoln at 5 pm .M. Received here at 3.4 .M.

Delivering Office.

From	To
	Cockburn Town

Regiment full up for Africa
Commanding Yeomanry depot.

Aug 25th.

In camp.

Up unusually early & crossed the river at a fairly easy place. Had a rough road for an hour but then got on a good track & reached Dennis' house — on top of a hill with a splendid view all round — about 9.30. He has gone to England but his partners — Wiggins & Wickens — told us all about the war — there was nothing new since we were at Gridan's farm except that the German fleet was bottled up at Kiel & that a big land battle was impending in Belgium. He walked on with us — 5 miles & very hot — to our camp & brought some of our stores which we left there at cost price. Country quite open here & no bush & all farms. Letter from home with bad dish war news. Received answer to cable sent on Aug 16th to Germany Adjutant — "Regiment full up for Officers". All the same I am going home on off chance of being of some use. Unwilling.

Aug 26th.

In camp. Walkers farm.

Went off to see Mrs Rawnsley's farm & inspected cattle which did not look any too well. Then rode on to "Thos." Walkers' farm — he was away — but his wife & some other female relations gave us tea & showed us round. Then proceeded to "Old man" Walkers' farm where his daughter showed us a young Rhino & Buffalo & we outspanned close to his house.

The country is getting quite open & undulating. Flat dirt & dust are awful — water for a wonder quite good but from a hot spring — said to be sulphur!!! Wonder what the effects will be tonight. — hope unlike Harrogate.

An obstruction was placed on the line last night. — a big tree & stones — near Palermo, but it was moonlight. & the engine driver saw it. Germans suspected.

Aug 27th.

On camp. Thoma.

Off soon after 7 & trekked through quite a nice hooky country with open spaces at times & reached Thoma at 10.30. Waggon not in till nearly 1. Station master told us all the news of the war but nothing seems to have happened of any importance though there is a rumour that the big battle near Brussels has been won by the Germans. No passenger train tomorrow, so shall have to go by goods — due to leave at 6 a.m. but generally not in till midday. Had very good lunch at the small hotel. Saw some quite fresh elephant (cow) tracks close to Walker's farm. Had a long evening with the station master & the hotel keeper — chiefly discussing the war.

Aug 28th.

N. W. Hotel. Livingstone.

Luggage train not supposed to leave Thoma till 10. but it suddenly arrived at 9 very unexpectedly. took our chairs into the guards' van — very dirty — & had an awful jolting to Livingstone which we reached about 4.30. Went to the hotel & had my hair cut. Met Fowlers, Jenkins & Major Gordon & Russell came to see us at dinner. All boats off but luckily one put on on Saturday week which will just suit us — the only "U-Castle" boat for three weeks homeward bound. Very thing seems quite disorganised. I. is quite annoyed at going home & apparently thinks it most unnecessary & uncalled for, but all the same won't stay out if I go home.

Aug 29th.

N. W. Hotel. Livingstone.

Busy all the morning selling stores to Fisher & Thomerdieu, banking, etc, etc. The H-L. boat arranged to sail on Sept. 5th was cancelled today, so it looks as if we were bound to have a weeks stay at least. At Lake Dorn — they say one will sail on the 12th — no boat left today or last Saturday & everything seems absolutely disorganised.

Aug 30th.

N. W. Hotel. Livingstone.

Strolled down to the Gambier & caused to the Falls Hotel landing. Inst. Robinson who was on the boat out with us & was going shooting Saturday up because he belongs to some T.A. force. The bridge is guarded by two black troopers & a police & white soldiers — & police. Fished as we came back by canoe but caught nothing though & had some bites — shocking. War news encouraging if reliable. But one never knows whether anything till is official or not. The local chemist — issues the papers — 3d for a very small sheet printed on one side only — & says what he likes.

A "Mobile Column" is said to be moving from here this week — some on horses, some on bikes & some on foot — but no one seems to know in what direction it will.

Nicklens arrived about 7 & we settled up with him as well as we could — his address —

J. R. Nicklens
Mazabuka
N. Rhodesia.

All "menus" at meals labelled "War Service" for some reason — probably to excuse bad food.

Aug 31st.

N. W. Hotel. Livingstone

Busy all the morning with Fisher & the Bank, etc. y Livingstone — the Barristers we met yesterday at the Falls Hotel, who is a friend of Geoffrey ~~Fisher~~ Fisher's, & two very nice chaps — Dale & Martin — troopers in the Rhodesian Police — came to lunch. & went back with them to the Falls. Booked berths in the U-T. boat leaving Tuesday on the 12th — hope she will sail — the last three boats have been cancelled at the last moment; so one never knows what may happen.

Sept 1st.

On train.

Busy packing up, etc, etc. Bulawayo papers arrived — not much war news but the Germans seem to have cut in between the English & French armies at Lille which looks bad & one thought the people here think otherwise. Left Livingstone about 8h.m. at the Falls station, Victoria, Livingstone, etc, etc, bade good bye to us. Lunch in the train

Sept 2nd.

On train.

Dust & dirt awful. Got to Bulawayo about 4. p.m. & walked about the town which is very dusty & uninteresting. Left at 7 — train very full indeed — 40 first class passengers to Jo'burg alone. Had to change at Bulawayo. About 20 Germans — prisoners of war — were brought in the train en route to Jo'burg.

Sept. 3rd.

In train.

dust & dirt if possible worse than yesterday — if one shuts the windows of the carriage one is suffocated & if one opens them one is covered & choked by dust. Very hot indeed. Got to ~~Kimberley~~ Naples about 7. p.m.

Sept. 4th.

In train

Got to Kimberley at 6. a.m. & had breakfast at the Savoy Hotel. Left at 11 — a gale of wind blowing which caused a regular dust storm & made matters very unpleasant till the evening.

Sept. 5th.

Mount Nelson Hotel. Cape Town.

Very cold indeed at night & in the early morning — many people wearing great coats. Passed the Hex river mountains & eventually reached Cape Town at 8. p.m. Retired to the Mount Nelson Hotel which seems very comfortable. Not much war news but what there is does not seem very encouraging — the Germans are within 37 miles of Paris.

Four days & nights in a train make one feel absolutely filthy & miserable & just as if one had been at sea for a long time.

No regular mails to England now for nearly a month. My Union-Castle boats — all seem to be regularly commandeered by the Government. but for what purpose exactly no one seems to know.

Expeditions seem likely to be made to German East & West Africa. but we have no earthly chance of being taken as there are any amount of young men who have been a lot of terribly willing to go.

The Aberdeen liner "Demosthenes" sails on Saturday unless pulled up. A White Star boat — one does only — goes sometimes this week it should do, but apparently nothing is so far arranged as they are said to be all third class passengers & accommodation — from Australia.

Lord Villiers buried today.

Sept-6th.

Mount-Nelson Hotel. Cape Town.

An awful blow this morning as it was announced that the sailing of the "Garth Castle" on Saturday has been cancelled. God knows when we shall get away from here now & our endeavours to get home seem futile & one can't help feeling very depressed. Went to Mass at "West minster — Orange River Colony." Geoffrey Neville's married sister — Mrs Lambert — & her husband came into lunch — he is in command of the naval forces here. After lunch motored round Table Mountain — Hout Bay, Muizenberg, etc, etc. Took 3 hrs & cost £3. But was well worth it as we saw some lovely scenery round the coast. Very like Marseilles or Naples. Vines very plentiful. War news still discouraging apparently as the Germans have nearly reached Paris — wonder if our retirement is strategy or necessity?

Sept-7th.

Mount Nelson Hotel. Cape Town.

Do 'Jocks' & Unwin — Castle officer & learnt that the "Garth Castle" may after all sail on Saturday subject to the Admiralty's permission — all of the boats that day will up & probably only one will sail.

A. & I played golf at Green Point — a quaint little course of 9 holes by the sea — with some clubs — very old & bad — which we bought in the town. Very much surprised to see in an old "Weekly Times" the announcement of Dorothy Shuttleworth's marriage to Colonel Campbell. Can't understand it at all.

Sept-8th.

Mount-Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Do looks & the Union-Castle offices after breakfast with the usual that the "Garth Castle" sails on Tuesday full up with soldiers & destination unknown—it may be Marseilles or anywhere in Europe—& the "Walmer Castle" goes straight to Southampton—with civilians only—on Saturday next & will—do they say—arrive before the "Garth". After much deliberation we chose the former—the "Garth" will take 10 civilians—& unless "all men are liars" & I am afraid the U-C people are we shall have done the right thing.
After lunch to Green Point & beat A. 4 up—yesterday I was only 1 up. Found a "dfoss" I bought yesterday in the town has been hawked about for years.
Heavy rain last night & very dull all today.
War news more encouraging—allies seem to be attacking the Germans & to have abandoned their "strategical" retreat. Lord Buxton landed today & a lot of people about in the black coats & top hats which seem very out of place in this country. Went to the Museum.

Sept-9th.

Mount-Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Do Union-Castle & "Walmer Castle" which they assure us will depart on the 9th. After lunch had 18 holes at Green Point, but owing to the heavy rain the course is nearly waterlogged—won 3 up.
All other courses here are flooded—especially Wynberg.
Bored beyond expression here & don't know what to do—10 days more too!!!

Sept-10th.

Mount-Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Usual walk in the town in the morning & the usual game of golf in the afternoon — got beaten 1 down for a change. Elsie & Kendal Apthorp are coming here on Saturday — he leaves on the "Garth Castle" on Tuesday for England. War news more encouraging — the Allies are advancing & the Germans retreating — ~~again~~ not only, I hope, for "strategic reasons".

Sept-11th.

Mt-Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Very heavy rain last night. Usual walk in the town before lunch & usual round of golf after — won 2 up. War news quite good. Lt. Macd pleased to see in papers that Kitchener wanted no men over 40 — but it only applied to the rank & file!!!

Sept-12th.

Mt-Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Elsie — Castle boat put off till the 20th. Usual walk — watched Imperial Light-Horse detrain — horses looked very small & light. Got beaten 4 up at golf. Elsie, Kendal & Elsie's eldest boy arrived about 8 — the former is very little changed since I last saw her. K. hopes for a job at the front; but nothing is arranged — he goes by Garth Castle on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Sept-13th. Int- Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Walked up to pass between Table Mountain & the Lions' Head after lunch — a fine view, but could not get higher owing to sentries guarding water works, etc. "Garth Castle" will not leave before 24th. War news very good all round — Russians seem to have wiped out Austrians helped by Germans & the latter also seem retreating from France back into Belgium.

Sept-14th. Int Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Usual walk & golf — beaten 5-up !!! The "Demosthenes" left today. War news still very good — the Germans seem in full retreat but I expect they will be awkward to deal with when behind their own fortresses.

Sept-15th. Int- Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Walked in town & sent cable saying I was leaving in the "Walmer Castle" to Dayton & that he must ascertain from U-T. offices in London the date of her arrival. Beat A. 5-up at golf in the afternoon. Horrible rumour tonight that the "Walmer Castle" won't sail after all !!! "Saxon" in today with mails. No war news.

Sept-16th. Sat- Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

Went down to Civil Service Club before lunch— very nice & members very hospitable. Got beaten at golf— 1 up— bottled the game away. Introduced to Mr Hoy after dinner— matters seem bad in the Free State & trouble is anticipated though Botha says he can cope with it. Asst Capt. Hay who knows the Dutchmen.

Sept-17th. Sat- Nelson Hotel Capetown.

A very wet morning. To Union— Castle offices & Bank— the latter have run short of Bank of England notes !!! Got again beaten at golf— 1 up.

Sept-18th.

Sat- Nelson Hotel. Capetown.

To Bank, etc— course so crowded after lunch that we had to stop— Sunday 3. "Ladies' day" & they will never let one through here no matter how badly they play & some are shockingly bad.
No war news to speak of— we shall now have to take the offensive & I feel rather pessimistic as to the result till the Russians get more into Germany.

"Walmer Castle" = 12,546 tons.

"Balmoral Castle" = 13,266 ".
"Edinburgh Castle = 13,326 ".

Sept- 19th.

Int- Nelson Hotel. Tapetown.

Got ticket from U-T offices. Played 9 holes at Green Point after lunch — was 3 up — when heavy rain came on & we got drenched to the skin — a nuisance the day before we leave. No war news.

Sept- 20th.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". Tapetown.

Busy packing most of the morning. Went down to the docks about 4, 30. p.m. & found the "Walmer Castle" lying in. She is not so nice a boat as the "Edinburgh Castle" apparently but is not very full — crowds of people came on board & blocked up the whole place — very few of them passengers. Supposed to leave at 10. p.m., but lay in the docks at midnight busy loading & unloading.

Sept- 21st.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". 167. Atlantic.

Left the dock about 2, 30. a.m. & as soon as we got outside the ship began to roll tremendously — so much so that it was impossible to sleep. It got a little better at daylight, but was blowing very hard & there was quite a big sea. General Sir G. & Lady Wolfe Murray on board, Major & Mrs Finlay & Sutherland. Heard that the "Pegasus" had been sunk by the "Königsberg" near Dar-es-Salaam. Very cold though the wind is astern. Have got a deck berth, but not very large, to myself.

The Germans have the biggest wireless installation in the world at Windhoek now a people say they can get through to Berlin by it.
The expedition to Walvis Bay is to destroy it.

Sept. 22nd.

S. S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

383.

Blowing hard but ship not rolling quite so much as yesterday & the sea went down towards evening & it became much warmer — a southerly wind. All lights are screened in the port holes & by a canvas screen along the deck. The Marconi caught a German Message from somewhere unknown to an unknown German war ship last night.

Sept. 23rd.

S. S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

386.

Wind nearly quite gone down but the boat continues rolling a good deal. Marconi heard an English War ship talking to Cape Town last night somewhere behind us — probably the "Hyacinth" on her way back after convoying troops to Walvis Bay — they say 4000 have gone there. Dull & overcast. Dance after dinner.

Sept. 24th.

S. S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

388.

Dull & smooth but ship still rolling. Marconi from H. M. S. "Astraea" telling us not to call at Madeira, but go straight home. Great excitement caused by the appearance of a steamer down after Breakfast. But it turned out to be a tramp going S. — the first ship we have seen since leaving Capetown.
Had a long talk with a French travelled American by name Howland & also with Morrison — owner of drummers & John. M.P. Howland is a member of the American Jockey Club.

Crossed the Equator today.

Sept-25th.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

386

Dull & showery & quite chilly. Ship still rolling a good deal — she vibrates very much always. Passed a steamer going S. about 5. p.m.

Sept-26th.

S.S. "Walmer Castle" Atlantic.

381.

Quite a muggy. Some news from a French source reached us last night about the war — the Germans seem to have fallen back since we last heard anything & there has been heavy fighting near Verdun in which the Allies seem to have exploded an attack. Concert.

Sept-27th.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

392.

A bright hot day — quite smooth, but the ship rolling as usual — don't think she will ever stop.

Sept-28th.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

381.

A dull rainy morning — very muggy at first but cooler till the evening. Some war news caught by Marconi last night but rather indefinite — from a French source as usual.

Temperature of sea = 81° today.

Off Cape Verde.

Sept. 29th.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

365.

Very hot & sticky all night & morning, but it got cooler towards evening. Sports on.

Sept. 30th.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

380.

A stifling hot night — cooler during the day but it got very bad again in the evening. My cabin is on the starboard hot side — starboard — but it is wrong this voyage, as the wind is on the port side.

Oct. 1st.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

361.

Very hot at night, but towards morning ran into a deliciously cool breeze from the N.E. Had news from Teneriffe quite encouraging. Seedy so went to see doctor. Passed a steamer going S. about 2 p.m — usual excitement. Fancy dress Ball after dinner & awful noise till very late — some drunken blighters woke me up at 2.30 a.m.

Oct. 2nd.

S.S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

368.

Much warmer as the wind dropped in the night. Passed the Canary Islands fairly close in the afternoon & also saw Teneriffe — 96 miles away. The former look very mountainous.

Oct- 3rd.

S. S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

379.

Much cooler & a strong breeze from the N.E. Passed Madeira — a long way off on the starboard quarter — about 10, so it seems strange we did'nt call there.

Oct- 4th.

S. S. "Walmer Castle". Atlantic.

372.

A dull cool morning. A supposed war ship appeared just below the horizon about 10 a.m. but only her masts were visible.

Oct- 5th.

S. S. "Walmer Castle". Bay of Biscay.

379.

Wind got up in the night & at 9 a.m. was blowing very hard from the N.E. & there was a big sea — the ship pitching a lot. It got smoother towards evening but turned very cold. No one knows whether we shall land at Plymouth or at Southampton. Tonight a Marconi message has been sent to enquire — the Officers expect to get to Plymouth tomorrow afternoon but I doubt it with this strong head wind.
No war news of any importance today — we have been getting messages regularly since passing Gibraltar.

Wd- 6th.

Duke of Cornwall's Hotel. Plymouth.

363.

A lovely calm morning. A French cruiser came up at midday & signaled to us that did not stop us. Saw another away to the West. Passed the Eddystone Light House at 4. p.m. & anchored outside Plymouth Breakwater about 5,30. Three tugs came alongside, but we had a weary wait till 8 o'clock before we got away — the whole day illuminated by search lights on every side — & did not land till 9,30. Then had a long time to waste till the Customs were ready & did not get to the Hotel till nearly 10. All foreigners were not allowed to land except Mr & Mrs Howland who by mistake were described as British subjects & one man, who was by birth a German, was arrested — Bethart was arrested as a spy !!!

Wd- 7th.

Berkeley Hotel. London.

Left Plymouth at 10,30 & reached Paddington at 3,15. & so ends a most unlucky trip in every possible way.

I have travelled quite 17,000 miles for 20 days shooting.

Aplin 22, 30
Authrax 24.
Aberdeen line 49.

Bay of Biscay 4. 68.
Bimelled Gnu 5.
Bulawayo 14. 46.
Boromen's kraal 32.

Cape town 12. 48–60.
Thomas 42.
Cape Verde 66.
Canary Islands 66.

Deniker 5.
"Demosthenes" 49.

Edinburgh Castle 4–12.
Eland 24. 36.
Equator 8. 64.
Elephant. 42.

Finisterre 4.
Funchal 6.
Franck, Dr. 15.

Gemsbok 5.
Guldenhuys 18–42.
Gordon, Major 22. 30.
Good 18.

Hex river 12. 48.
Hartebeest 36. 38.

Impala 7.
Itinerary 9.

Kuder 1. 18. 32.
Kimberley 12. 48.
Kafue flats 24. 26. 28.

Lechwe 1. 24. 26. 28.
Livingstone 14. 42. 44. 46.
Lambert, Mrs 50.

Madeira 6. 68.
Mileage 11.
Mayaboka 18.
Mennijas 22.
Monze river 22.
Motor 24.
Mirage 26.
Makonka river 36.
Malindi 38.
Mafeking 48.
Mucklow, J.H. 18, 45.

Reedler. 4.

Ribbi 5. 32. 34.

Pukui 7. 28.

Roan 1. 36.
Redbuck 5.
Roscoe 18.

Table 1. 32.
Southampton 4.
Scott, R. 6. 12. 14.

Temperatures of sea. 66.

Ushant 4.

Victoria Falls 14.16.24.

Waterbuck 7.
Wallace 16.
Walker 40.
"Walmer Castle" 60—
Weldebeest 24.28.30.

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